

ER-7-5864A

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The Honorable Francis White
American Ambassador
Mexico, D.F.

Dear Francis:

Thank you for your letter of 31 October 1955 in which you recommended the firm of Taylor & Fisher for consideration in connection with the architectural aspects of our proposed new headquarters building.

Taylor & Fisher entered into a joint venture with Williams, Coile and Blanchard, DiStasio & VanBuren, and Pereira & Luckman in their application for selection as our principal architects. It is my understanding that this venture was dissolved when, after very careful consideration, we finally selected the firm of Harrison & Abramovitz.

We have not yet decided whether there will be associate architects and would be glad to consider Taylor & Fisher along with others interested in working with Harrison & Abramovitz.

Your personal recommendation of Mr. Fisher is, of course, most meaningful, and I would be glad to see him at any time.

Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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CONCUR:

L. K. WHITE
Deputy Director
(Support)

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Quifer

American Embassy,
Mexico, D.F.,
October 31, 1955.

Dear Allen:

A friend of mine, Mr. D. K. Este Fisher, Jr., of the architectural firm of Taylor and Fisher, 130 West Hamilton Street, Baltimore, has written me to say that his firm is actively engaged in attempting to get full consideration--and, he hopes, eventual appointment--as architects for the proposed Central Intelligence Agency's main office project, which will be located either in Maryland or Virginia, close to Washington.

I have known Este Fisher intimately for over 55 years, since we went to kindergarten and school together in Baltimore. He is a first cousin of Jim and David Bruce. He was in the class of 1913 at Princeton, and I think you and Clover may have met him and his wife on one occasion at Nancy's and my house in Baltimore. He is a most honorable and competent person and I have no hesitation in attesting to his high character and thorough reliability. It may be that he will ask to see you in the near future, and I take pleasure in letting you know of my high regard and esteem for him personally.

The office of Taylor and Fisher was originally Parker, Thomas & Rice and began its principal big work with the Belvedere Hotel and the B & O Railroad office building and other big projects after the Baltimore fire, and has been responsible for a

considerable

The Honorable
Allen W. Dulles,
Director of the CIA,
Washington, D.C.

-2-

considerable proportion of important projects around Baltimore and many in Virginia.

Nancy joins me in affectionate regards to you and Clover.

Ever sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Francis White", with a stylized flourish above the name.

Francis White

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

SUSPENSE: 16 Nov 1955

TO		INITIALS	DATE
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1	Assist. to the Director	FMC	9 Nov
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Remarks:

For preparation of reply for DCI signature.
Ambassador
 Mr. Dulles wants to tell ~~Mr.~~ White that he
 will arrange to have a talk with Mr. Fisher.

[Redacted Signature Box]

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